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Ortiz et al.

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(54) **COLLAPSIBLE CONTAINER**

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B65D 81/34 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **426/111**; 426/112; 426/115; 220/8; 206/804; 206/815

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 426/106, 111, 112, 113, 115; 220/8, 220/23.83, 495.01; 206/804, 815
See application file for complete search history.

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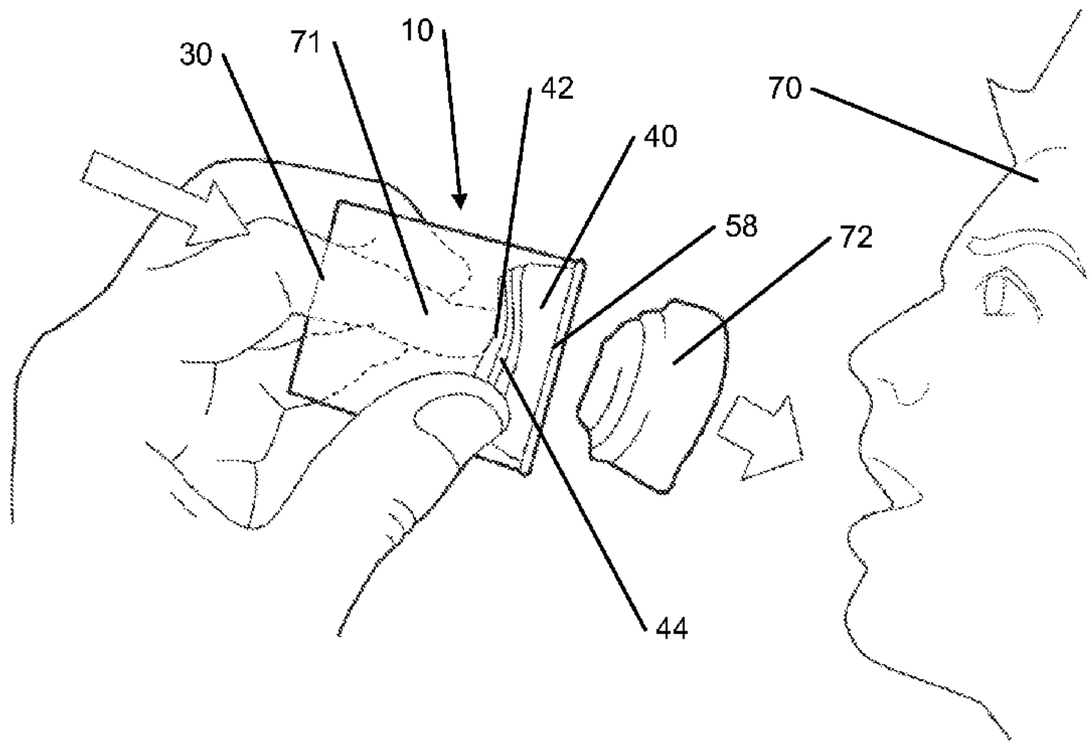
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A collapsible container includes an outer cup, an inner cup located inside the outer cup, and a seal covering the container. The inner cup includes a base and a plurality of concentric sections that are configured to collapse toward an opening in the container, when a force is exerted toward the opening on the base. The plurality of concentric sections may include three concentric sections: a base section, a middle section, and a top section, wherein the base section perimeter is smaller than the middle section perimeter, and the middle section perimeter is smaller than the top section perimeter.

13 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



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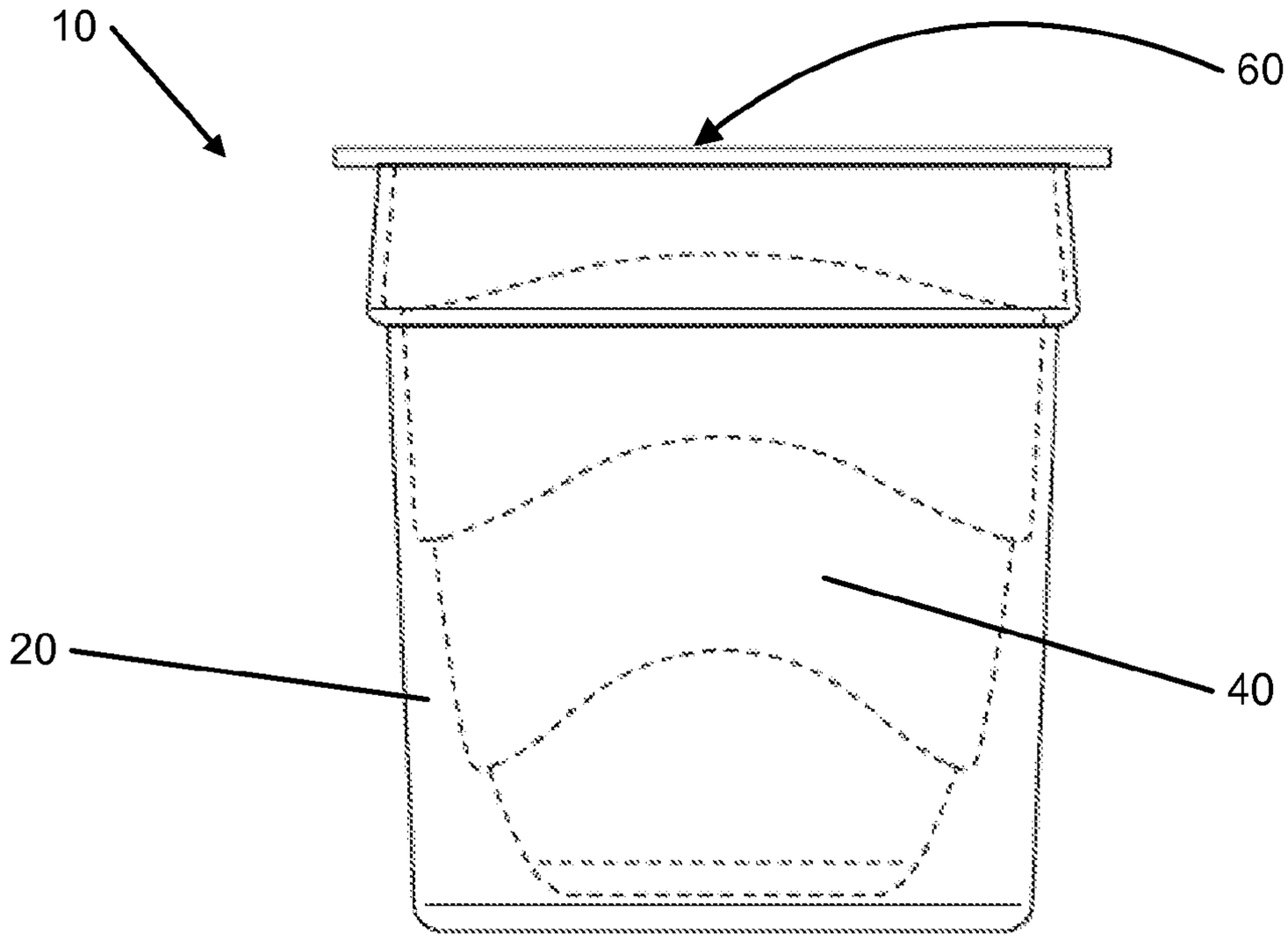

FIG. 1A

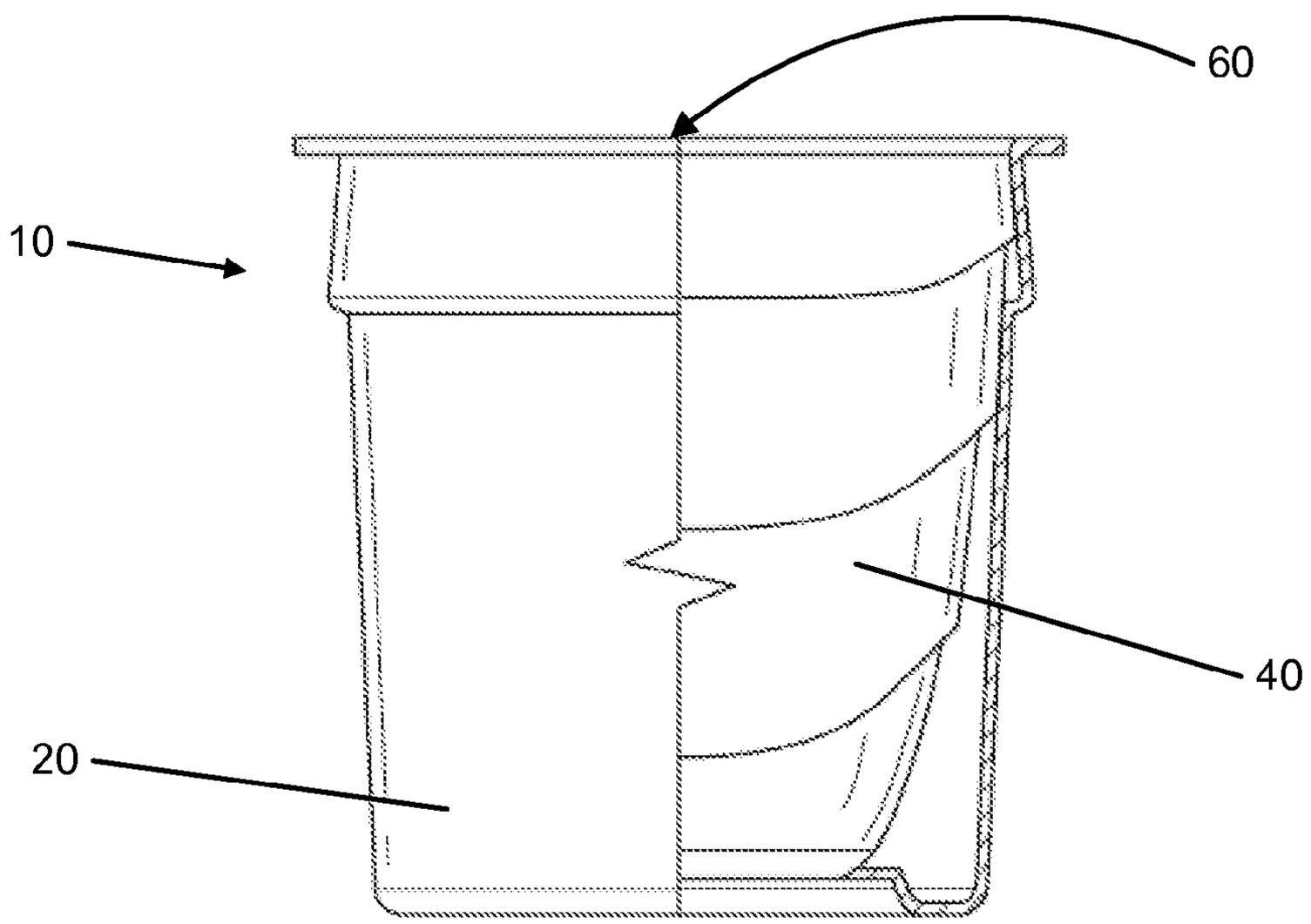

FIG. 1B

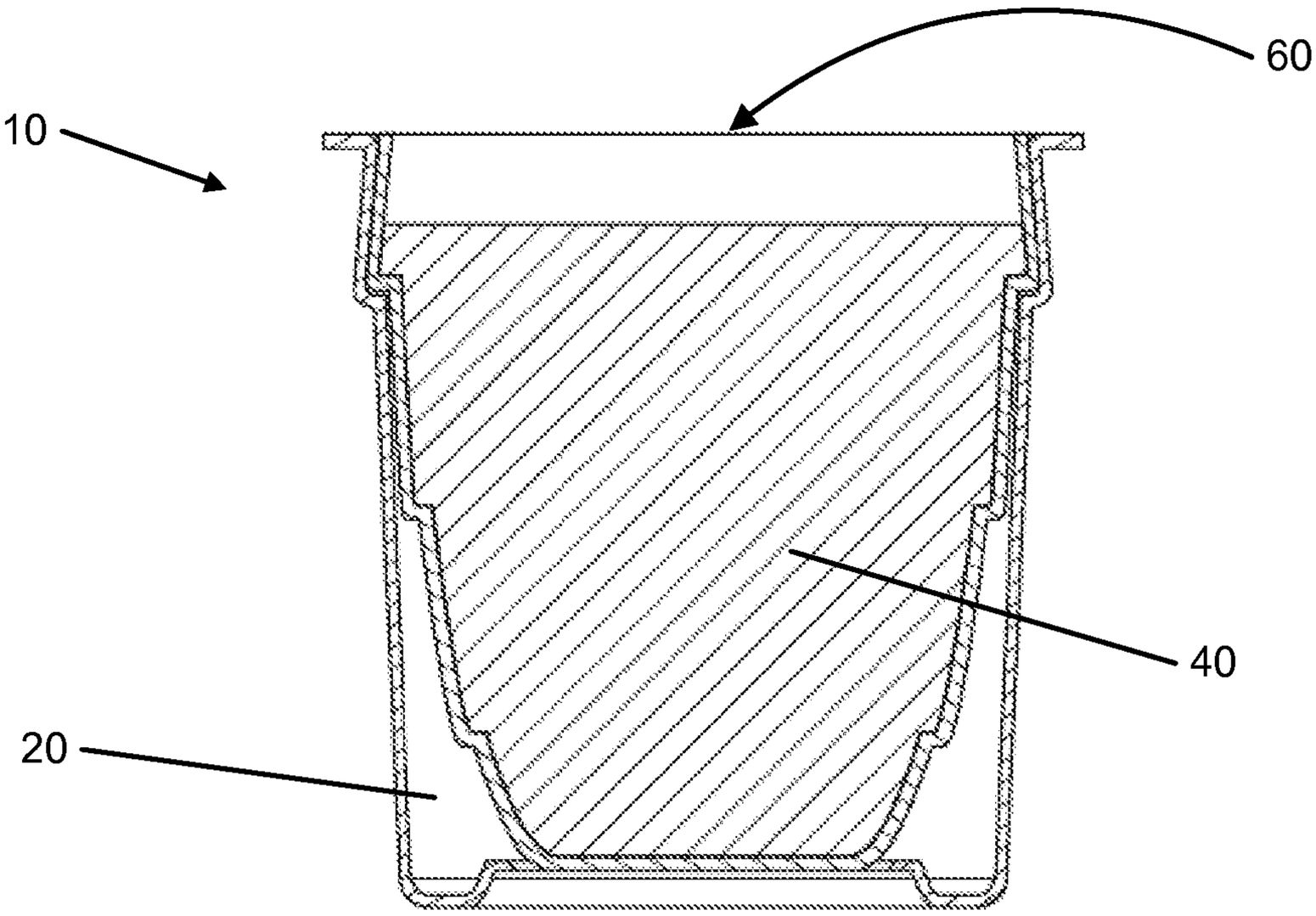

FIG. 1C

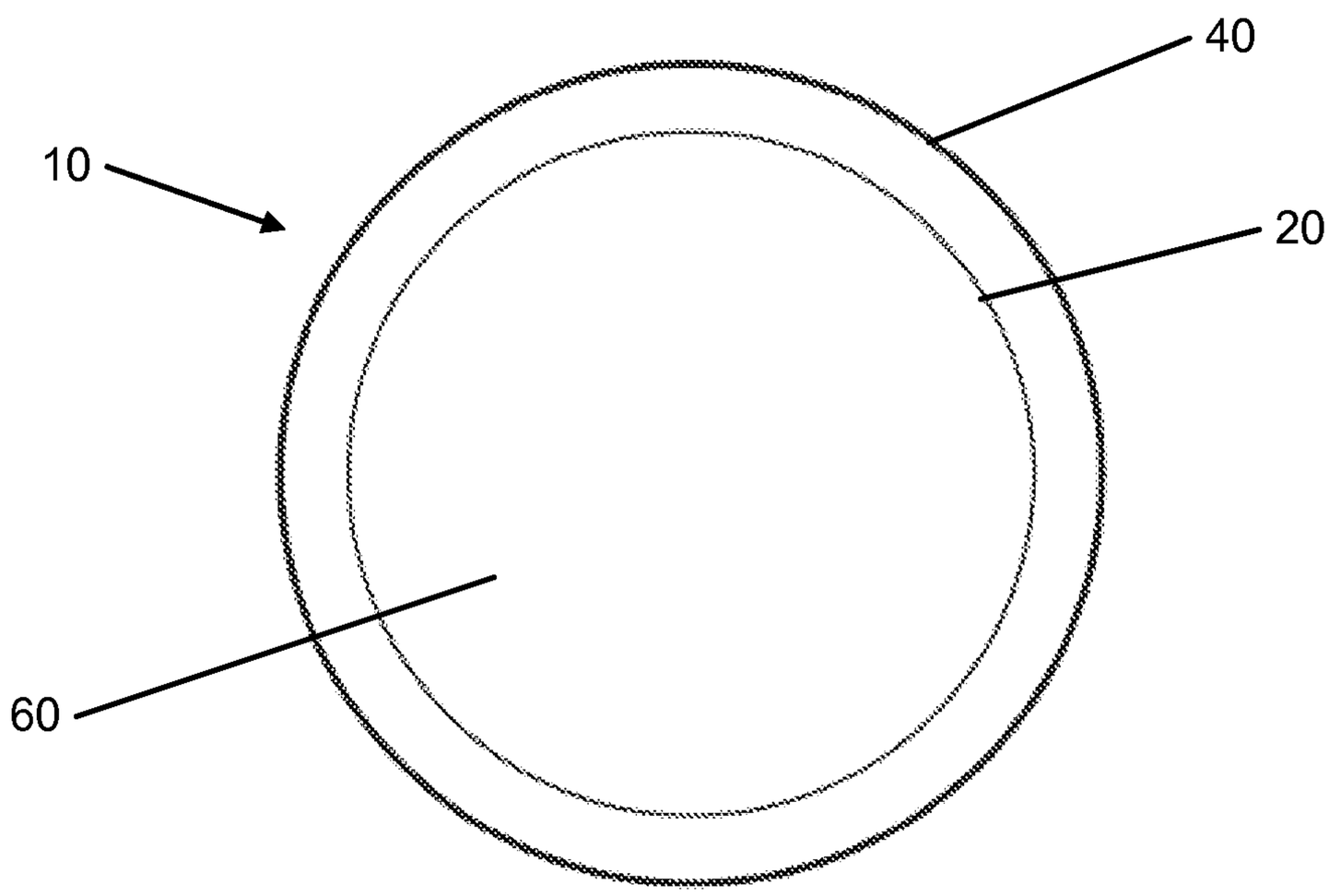

FIG. 1D

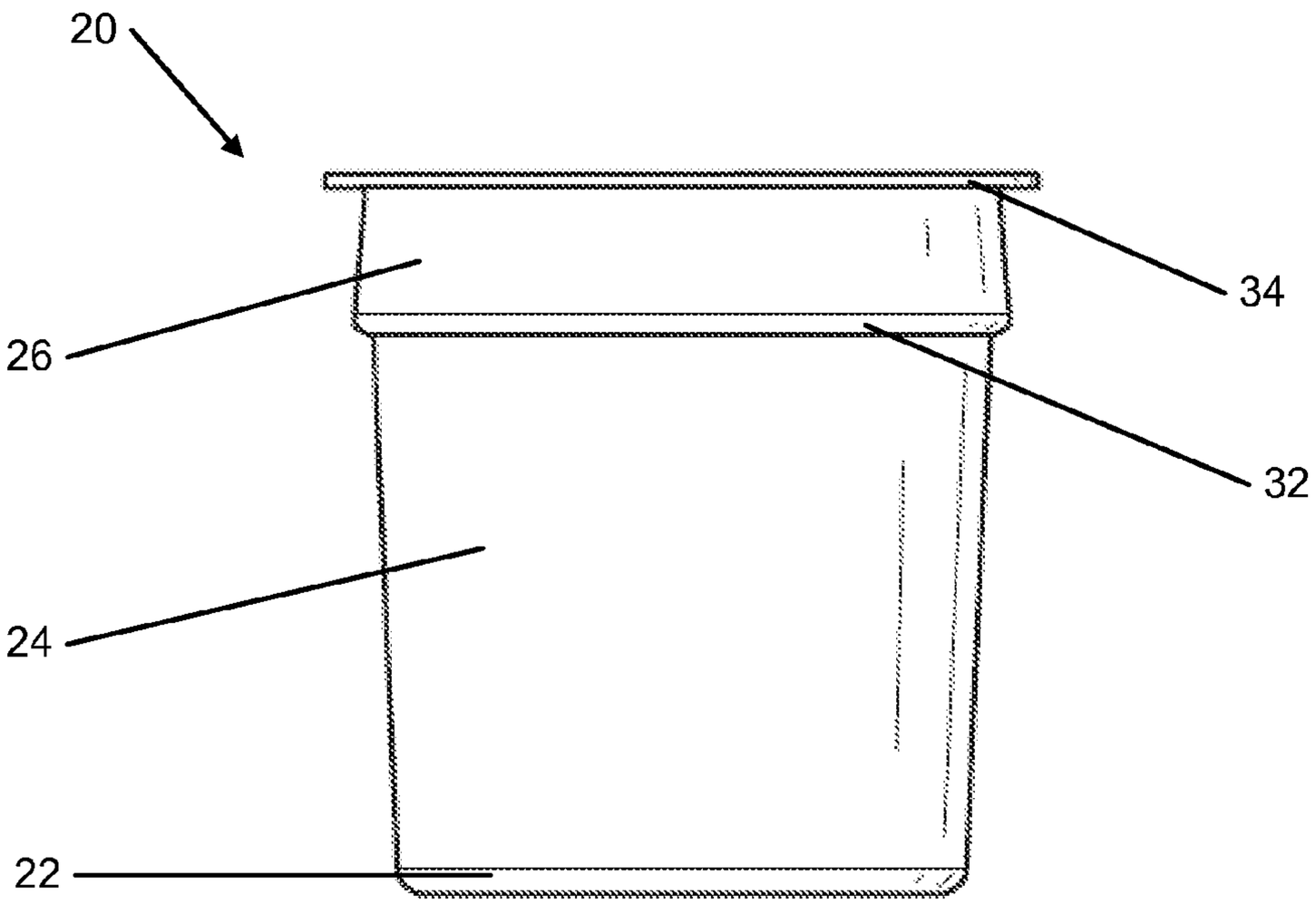

FIG. 2A

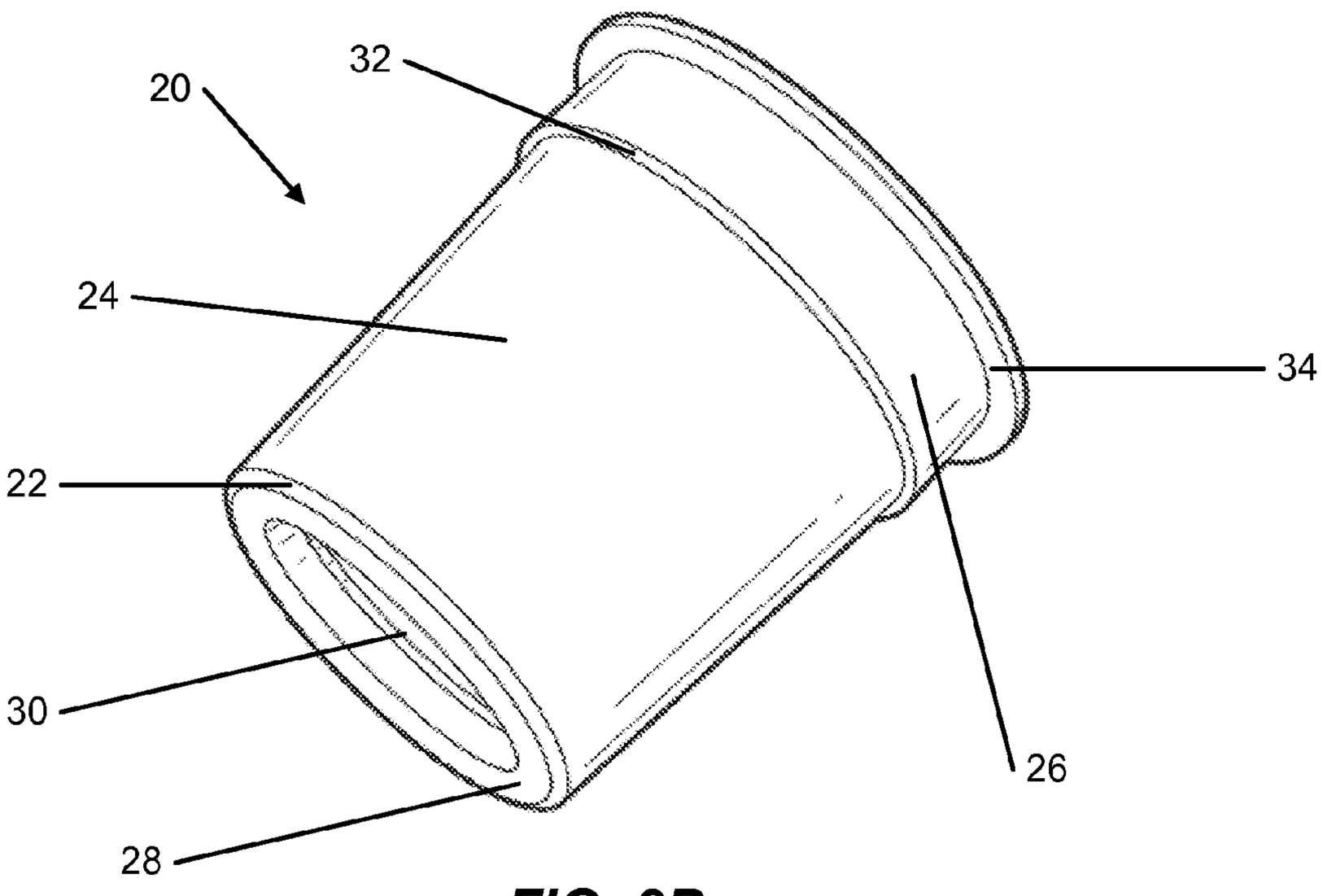

FIG. 2B

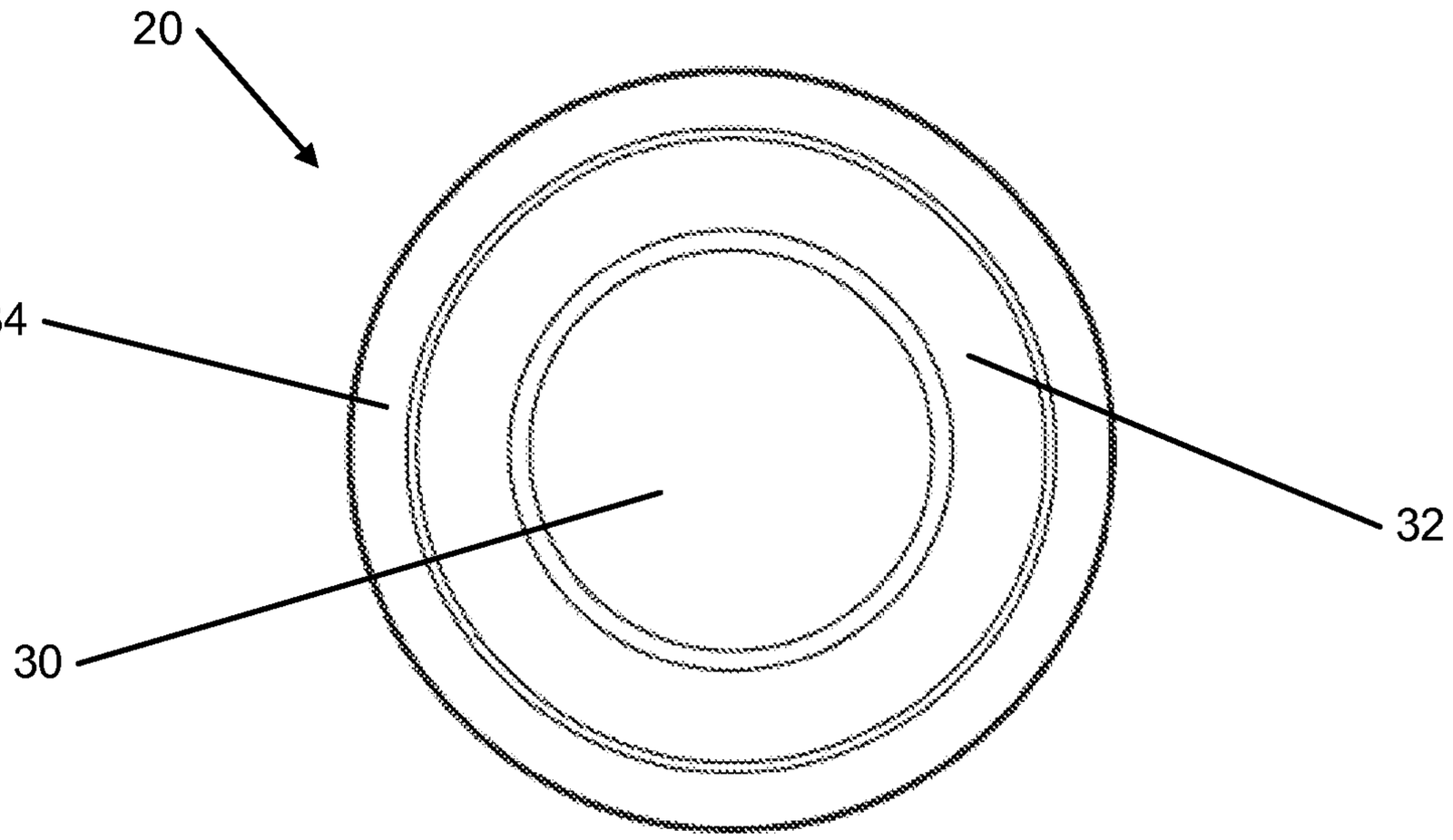

FIG. 2C

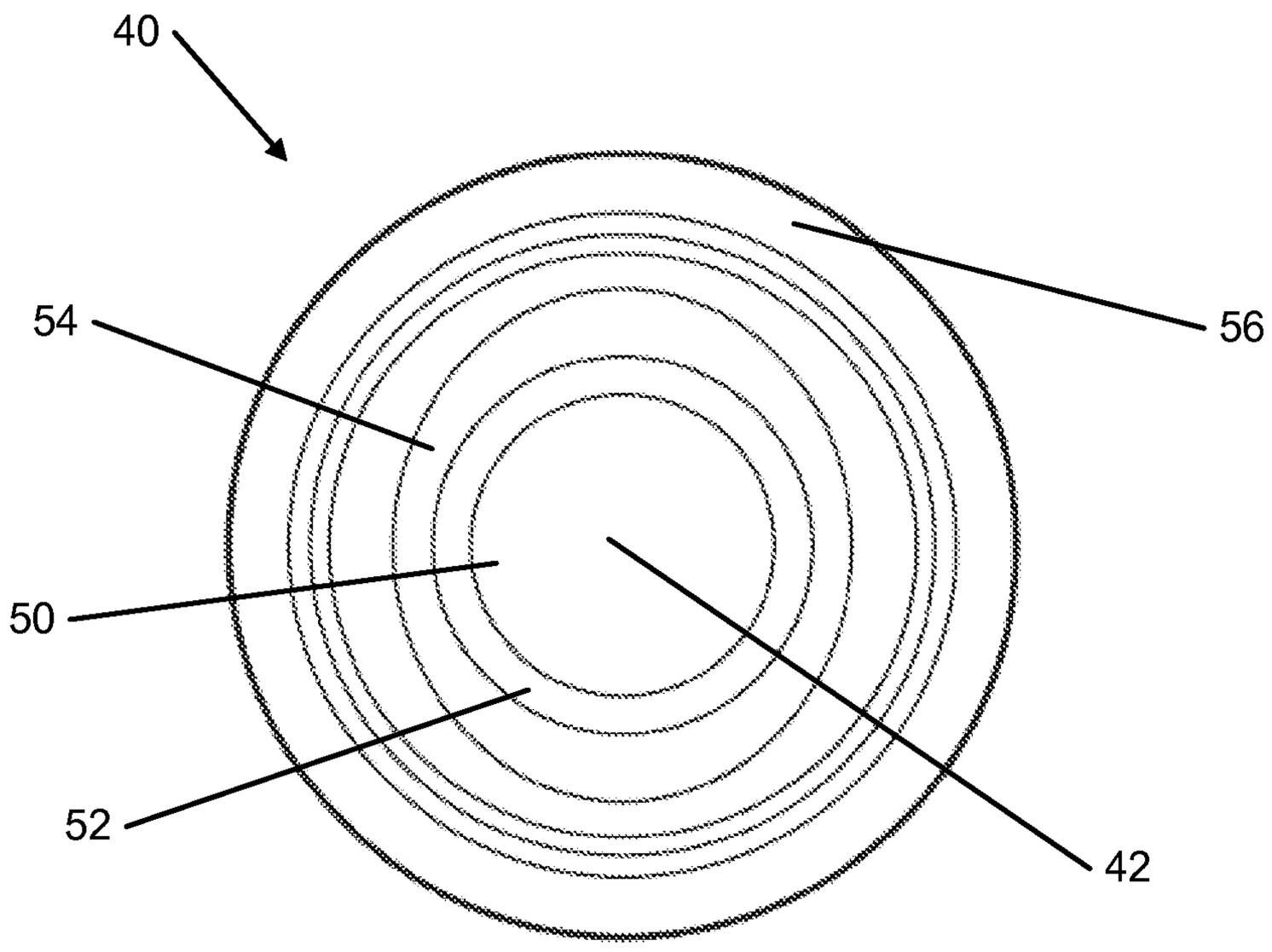

FIG. 3C

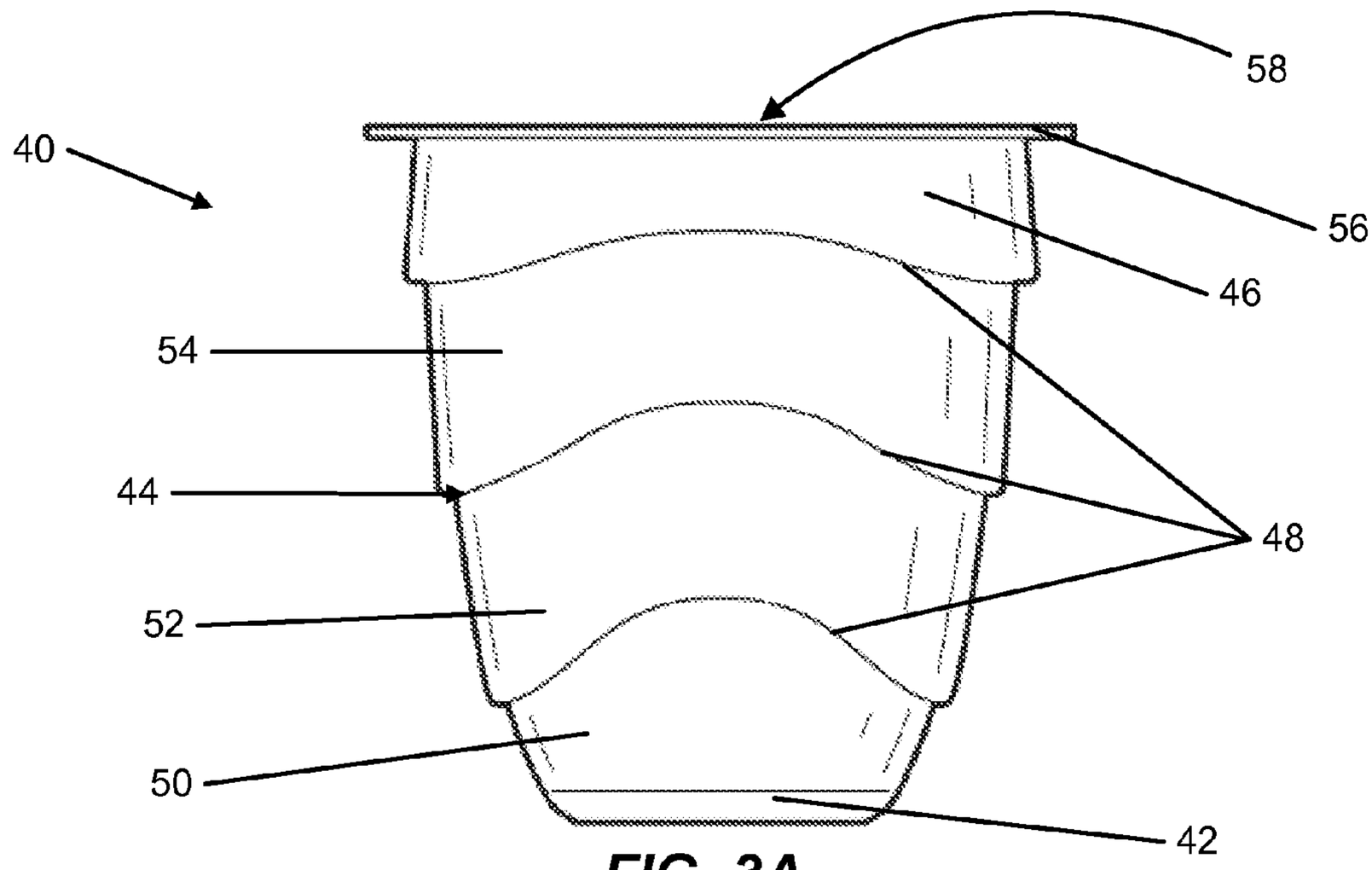

FIG. 3A

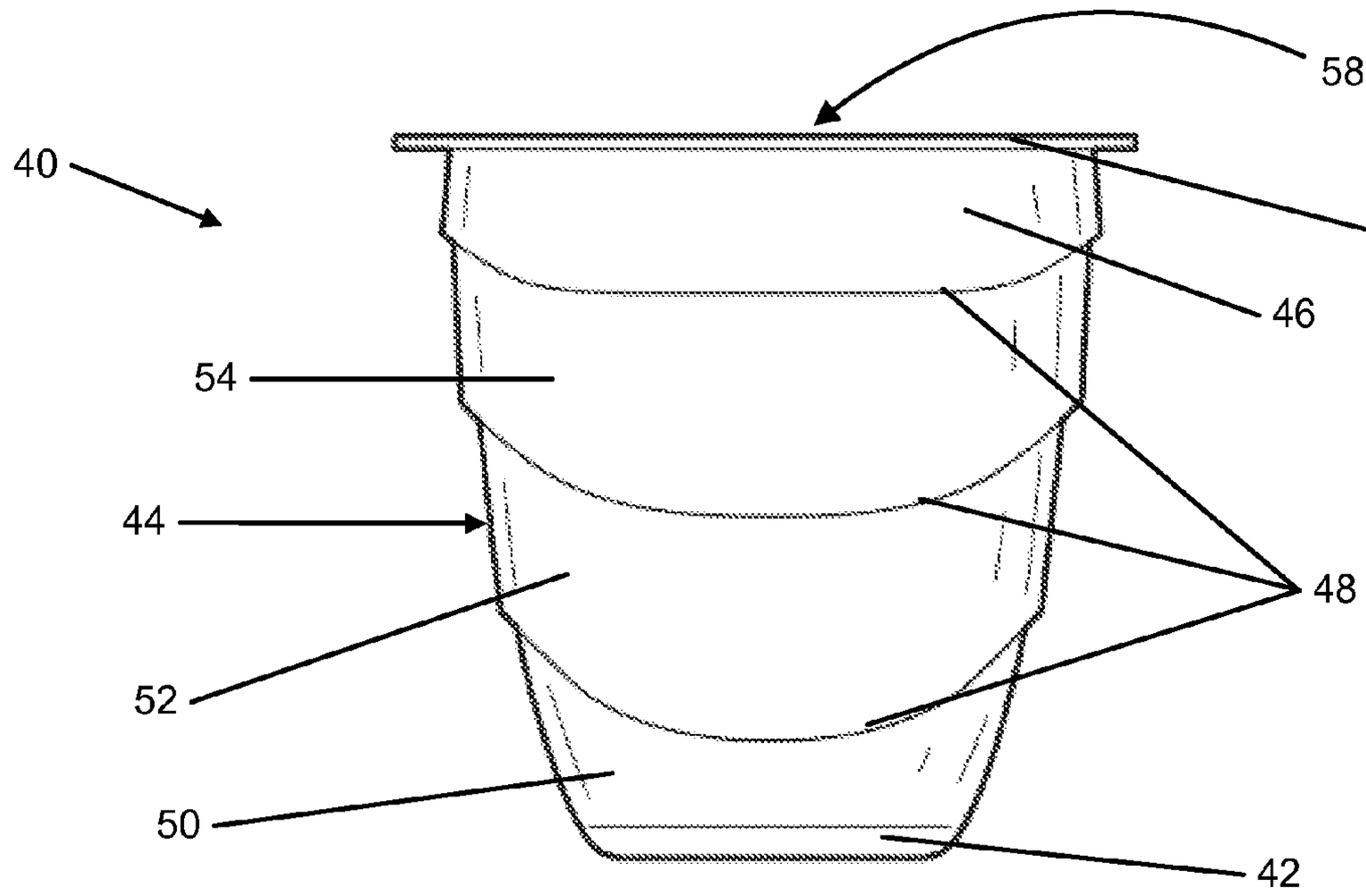

FIG. 3B

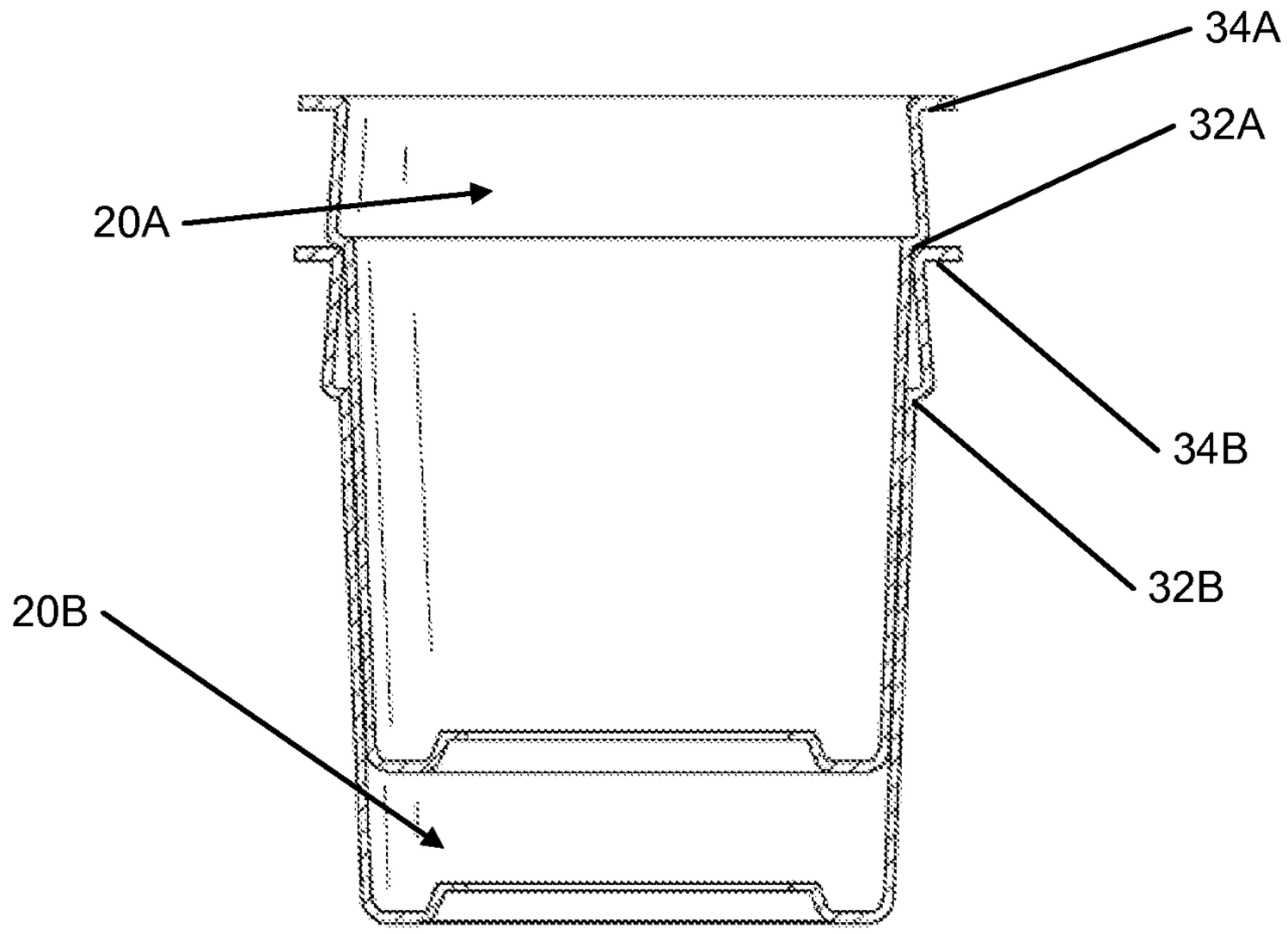

FIG. 4

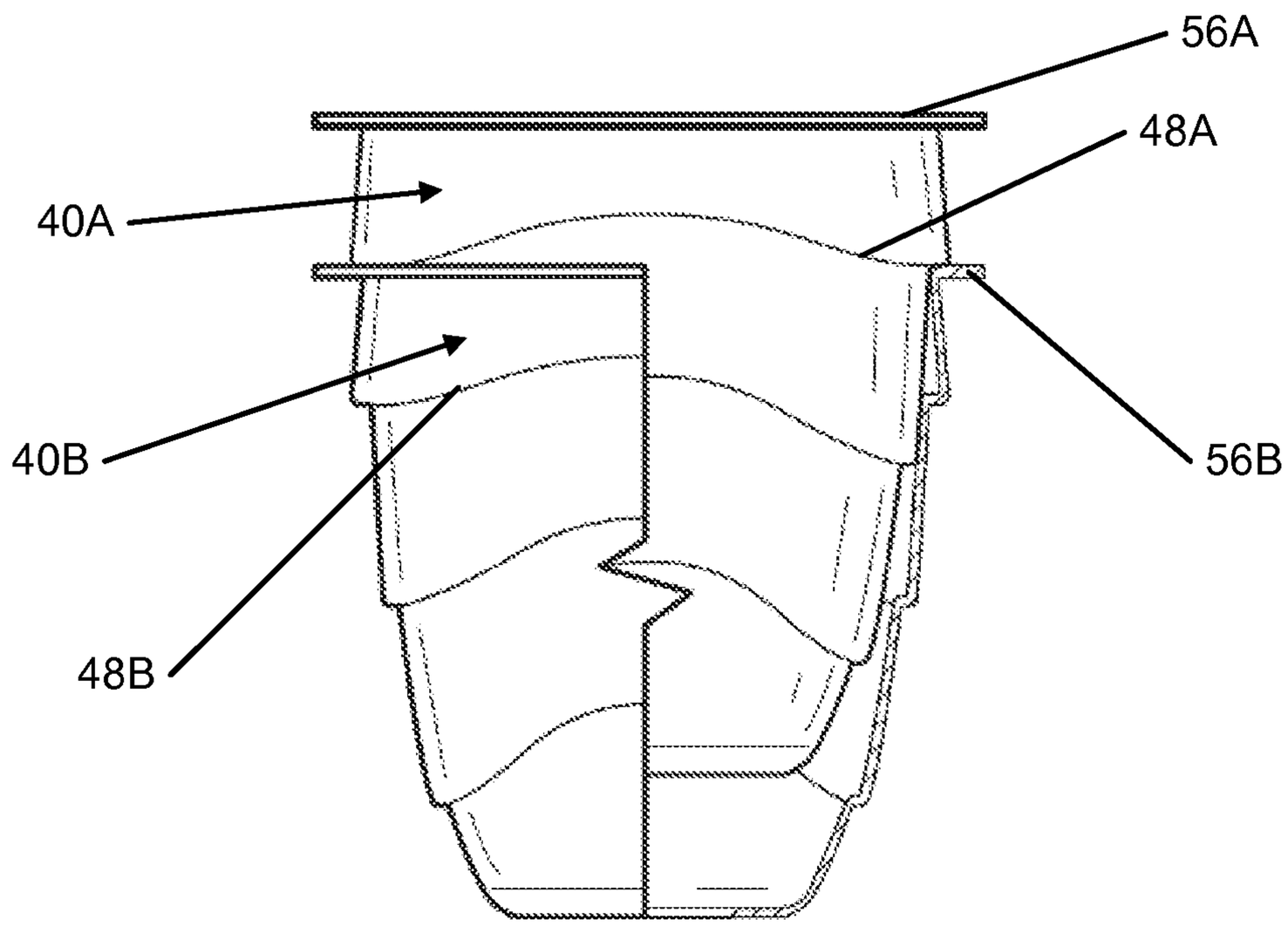

FIG. 5

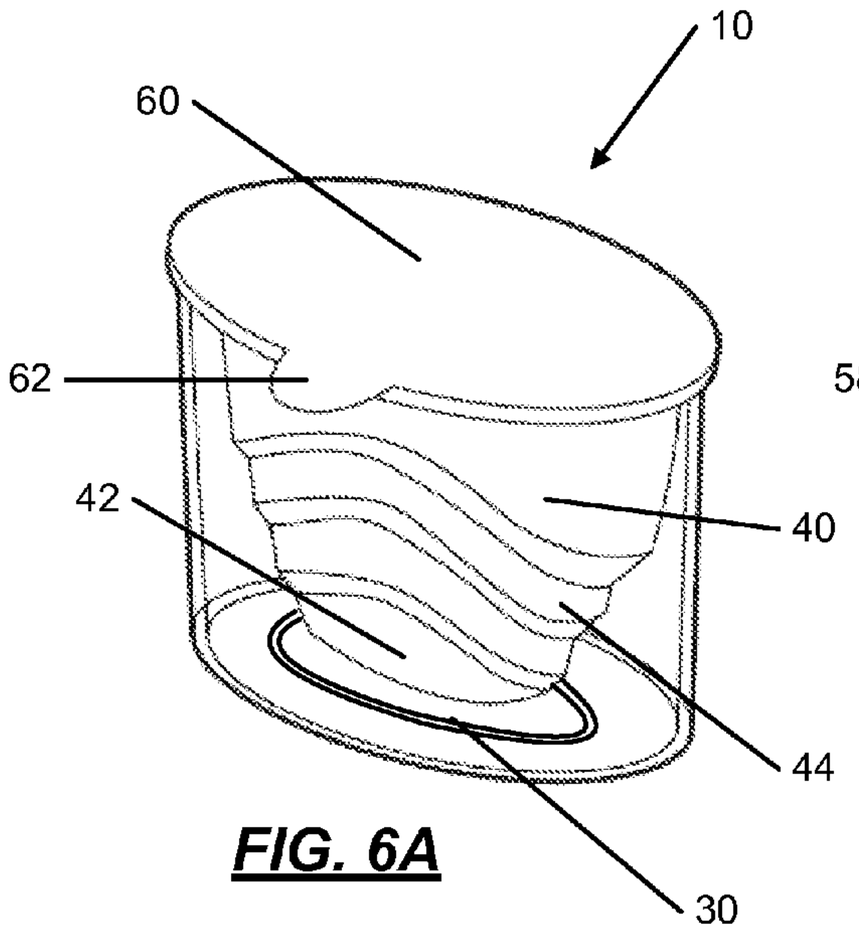

FIG. 6A

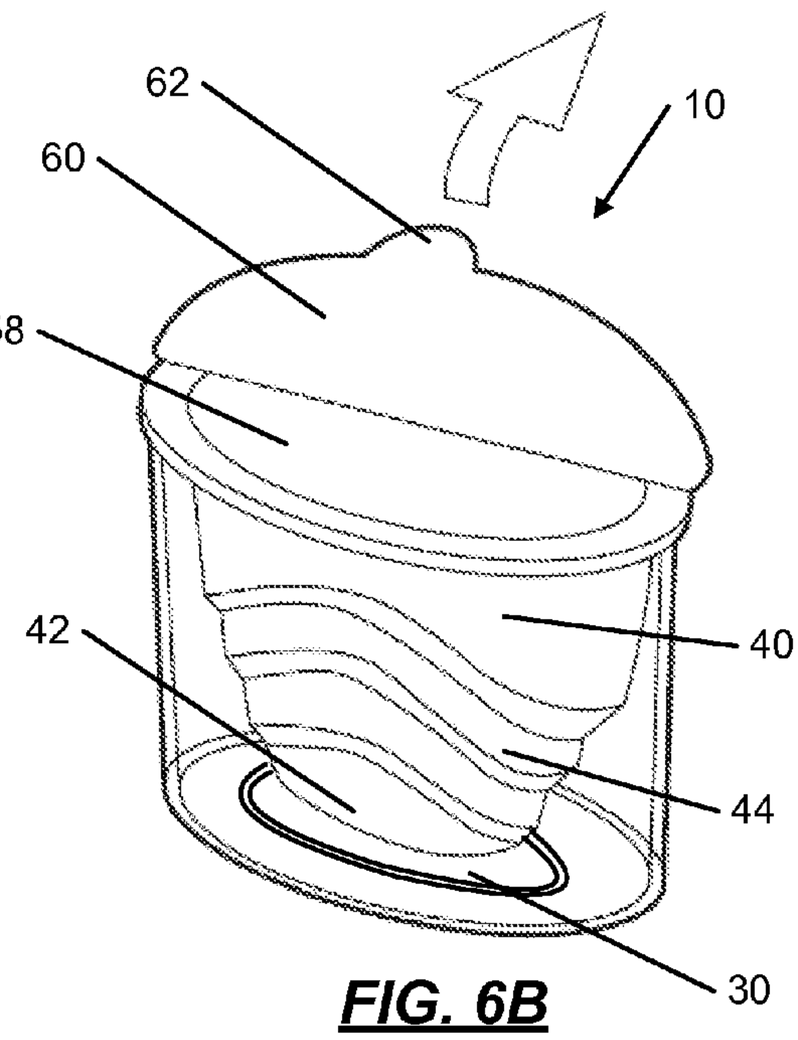

FIG. 6B

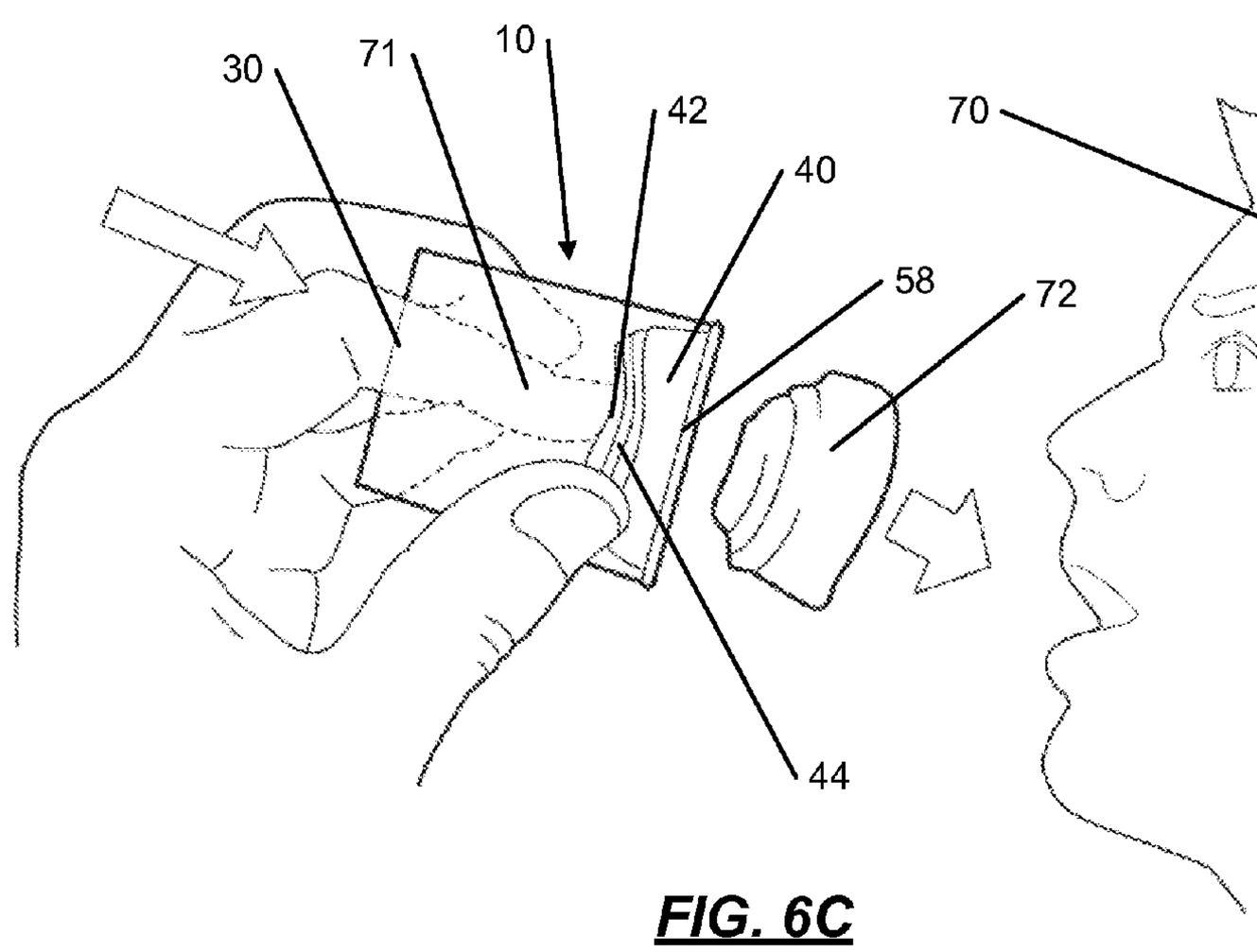

FIG. 6C

COLLAPSIBLE CONTAINER

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This Application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 61/296,346, filed Jan. 19, 2010.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a container that can be used for a fluid material, such as liquid, gas, paste, or gel, wherein the container is adapted to collapse to discharge the fluid material.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Consumer packaging is designed to take into consideration functionality and appearance. For example, consumption of food contained within a one-serve sized container is often achieved by the use of a spoon. The spoon may transfer the food content directly to the mouth of the consumer. A spoon is a further element that needs to be provided to allow for the contents of such a container to be consumed. Yogurt and custards and other gelatinous food consumer products, such as those having a jelly-like consistency are not to any significant extent able to be poured or dispensed quickly from a container due to their high viscosity and/or gelatinous nature. It is therefore necessary to use a spoon to transfer some if not a substantial part of the contents from the container. There also seems to be a trend with consumer packaging products for food container to allow the food contents to be dispensed without the need for further implements or utensils. The capability of a package to self dispense a significant part of the contents is being addressed by consumer packaging designers and manufacturers.

For example, in today's fast-paced society, where consumers are constantly on-the-go, a need exists for easy-to-consume, shelf-stable comestibles that could be preferably consumed in one bite without a spoon or other eating utensil. An example of such a comestible is an easy-to-consume gel-based product in a collapsible container.

There is, therefore, a need in the art for a container that is inexpensive and easy to use, and that eliminates the problems associated with the prior art containers. The present invention is directed to remedying these and other deficiencies of the prior art containers.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following presents a general summary of aspects of the invention in order to provide a basic understanding of at least some of its aspects. This summary is not intended as an extensive overview of the invention. It is not intended to identify key or critical elements of the invention or to delineate the scope of the invention. The following summary merely presents some concepts of the invention in a general form as a prelude to the more detailed description provided below.

According to one aspect, the present invention relates to a container configured to hold edible contents that includes an outer cup, an inner cup located inside the outer cup, and a seal. The outer cup may comprise a bottom portion located at the bottom of the outer cup, a sidewall section engaged with the bottom portion, and an outer cup top portion engaged with the sidewall section. The bottom portion may further include a hole. The outer cup top portion may further include an outer cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the outer cup top portion. The inner cup may comprise a base, a plurality of collapsible sections, and an inner cup top portion. The plurality of collapsible sections may further include a top section, a middle section, and a base section. The inner cup top portion may further include an inner cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the inner cup top portion. A container opening may be defined in the inner cup top portion. The base may be accessible from through the hole in the outer cup. The seal may cover the container opening and may be affixed to the inner cup perimeter flange. Additionally, the base may be configured to collapse toward the container opening when a force is exerted toward the container opening through the hole on the inner cup, such that the base section collapses inside the middle section, and the base section and middle section collapse inside the top section, thereby discharging the edible contents from the container.

Additionally, this aspect of the invention may include additional features without departing from the invention. For example, the inner cup perimeter flange may engage the outer cup perimeter flange. The plurality of collapsible sections may be concentric, wherein the base section perimeter is less than the middle section perimeter and the middle section perimeter is less than the top section perimeter. Additionally, the inner cup may be made of a thermoform plastic and/or the outer cup may be made of a thermoform plastic. The seal may be made of a foil material. The container opening may be either circular or oval. Additionally, the outer cup may be stackable with a second outer cup such that the outer cup perimeter flange does not engage a perimeter flange on the second outer cup. Additionally, the inner cup may be stackable with a second inner cup such that the inner cup perimeter flange does not engage a perimeter flange on the second inner cup. Also, the sidewall section may include one or more of the following: logos, advertising content, or nutritional information.

According to another aspect, the present invention relates to a container comprising a first cup, a second cup located inside the first cup, an opening located at the top of the second cup, and a seal covering the opening. The first cup may comprise a first cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the perimeter of the top of the first cup. Additionally the second cup may comprise a base, a plurality of concentric sections, and a second cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the perimeter of the top of the second cup. The opening may be defined by the second cup perimeter flange. The seal may be affixed to the second cup perimeter flange. Additionally, the second cup may be configured to collapse within the first cup when a force is exerted toward the opening on the base, such that the plurality of concentric sections collapse toward the opening.

According to another aspect, the present invention relates to a container configured to hold edible contents that includes an outer cup, an inner cup located inside the outer cup, and a seal. The outer cup comprises a bottom portion located at the bottom of the outer cup, a sidewall section engaged with the bottom portion, and an outer cup top portion engaged with the sidewall section. The bottom portion may further include a hole. The outer cup top portion may further include an outer cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the outer cup top portion. The inner cup may include a base, a plurality of concentric and collapsible sections, and an inner cup top portion that engages the outer cup top portion. The plurality of concentric and collapsible sections may further include a top section, a middle section, and a base section, wherein the base section perimeter is less than the middle section perimeter, and the middle section perimeter is less than the top section

perimeter. Additionally, the inner cup top portion may include an inner cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the inner cup top portion, such that the inner cup perimeter flange engages the outer cup perimeter flange. The inner cup top portion defines a container opening. The base may be accessible from through the hole in the outer cup. The seal covers the container opening and is affixed to the inner cup perimeter flange. The base may be configured to collapse toward the container opening when a force is exerted toward the container opening through the hole on the inner cup, such that the base section collapses inside the middle section, and the base section and middle section collapse inside the top section, thereby discharging the edible contents from the container.

These and other features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the description of the preferred embodiments, with reference to the accompanying drawing figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

A more complete understanding of the present invention and certain advantages thereof may be acquired by referring to the following description in consideration with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference numbers indicate like features, and wherein:

FIG. **1**A is a front plan view of a collapsible container in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **1**B is a side partial cut-away view of the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **1**C is a side cut-away view of the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **1**D is a top view of the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **2**A is a front plan view of an outer cup from the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **2**B is a perspective view of the outer cup of FIG. **2**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **2**C is a top view of the outer cup of FIG. **2**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **3**A is a front plan view of an inner cup from the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **3**B is a side plan view of the inner cup of FIG. **3**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **3**C is a top view of the inner cup of FIG. **3**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **4** is a cut-away front view of a stackable feature for the outer cup of FIG. **2**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention;

FIG. **5** is a partial cut-away front view of a stackable feature for the inner cup of FIG. **3**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention; and

FIGS. **6**A though **6**C illustrate the use of the collapsible container of FIG. **1**A in accordance with at least some examples of this invention.

The reader is advised that the attached drawings are not necessarily drawn to scale.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In the following description of various examples of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof, and in which are shown by way of illustration various example structures, systems, and steps in which aspects of the invention may be practiced. It is to be understood that other specific arrangements of parts, structures, example devices, systems, and steps may be utilized and structural and functional modifications may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention. Also, while the terms "top," "bottom," "front," "back," "side," and the like may be used in this specification to describe various example features and elements of the invention, these terms are used herein as a matter of convenience, e.g., based on the example orientations shown in the figures. Nothing in this specification should be construed as requiring a specific three dimensional orientation of structures in order to fall within the scope of this invention.

The present invention relates to a collapsible container **10**. The collapsible container **10** is shown in FIGS. **1**A through **1**D. The collapsible container **10** may have a volume of between approximately 1 fluid ounce and 5 fluid ounces, and it will be appreciated that the container **10** can be upsized and downsized and still achieve the same functionality and desired characteristics as will be described herein. Although the foregoing embodiment relates to a container **10** that is circular, it will be apparent that the container **10** may also take other forms, for instance, oval, square, rectangular, or polygonal. As shown in FIGS. **1**A and **1**B, the collapsible container **10** may include a first cup **20**, a second cup **40**, and a seal **60**.

The first cup, or outer cup **20** is illustrated in more detail in FIGS. **2**A through **2**C. As is shown in FIGS. **2**A and **2**B, the outer cup **20** may be a circular structure. The outer cup **20** may be other shaped structures, such as an oval structure (as illustrated in FIGS. **6**A through **6**C), a rectangular structure, or other polygon shape structures without departing from the scope of this invention. The outer cup **20** may include a bottom portion **22**, a side-wall section **24**, and an outer cup top portion **26**.

As shown in FIG. **2**B, the bottom portion **22** may include a flat portion **28** located at the bottom of the container **10**. The flat portion **28** may allow the container **10** to stand upright while seated on a flat surface. The bottom portion **22** may also include a hole **30**. The hole **30** may consist of a portion of the entire area of the bottom portion **22** of the outer cup **20**. The hole **30** may be circular in shape or may be other shapes without departing from the scope of this invention. Generally, the hole **30** may be big enough for a finger to move or push through.

Additionally as shown in FIGS. **2**A and **2**B, the side-wall section **24** is engaged with or located next to the bottom portion **22**. The side-wall section **24** is generally a tubular shape and the same shape as the outer cup **20**. For example, if the outer cup **20** is circular, the side-wall section **24** is also generally circular and if the outer cup **20** is oval, the side-wall section **24** is also generally oval. The side-wall section **24** has generally smooth sides. The side-wall section **24** may also have sides that are not smooth without departing from the scope of this invention. The side-wall section **24** may also include one or more logos, advertising content, or nutritional information for the given product inside the container **10**.

Additionally, the side-wall section **24** may be substantially parallel, for example straight up and down. In another example in accordance with this invention, the side-wall section **24** may include a slight taper to help allow for the outer cups **20** to be stacked during manufacturing, shipping, or storage.

The outer cup top portion **26** is illustrated in FIGS. **2**A and **2**B. The outer cup top portion **26** may be engaged with or located next to the side-wall section **24**. The outer cup top

portion **26** includes a ridge **32**. The ridge **32** may be located where the outer cup top portion **26** meets or engages the side-wall section **24**. The ridge **32** may extend around the perimeter of the outer cup top portion **26**. Additionally, the outer cup top portion **26** may include an outer cup perimeter flange **34**. The outer cup perimeter flange **34** may be located at the top of the outer cup top portion **26**, furthest away from the side-wall section **24**. The outer cup perimeter flange **34** may flare outwardly from the outer cup top portion **24** and may extend around the perimeter of the outer cup top portion **26**. The outer cup perimeter flange **34** includes both a top and a bottom.

The outer cup **20** may be made of many different types of materials. The outer cup **20** may preferably be made from plastic, and particularly those plastics which can result in a rigid surface when sufficiently thin, and ensure flexibility, for example thermoform plastics. Additionally, without departing from the scope of this invention, the outer cup **20** may be made of other materials, such as metals. Other materials known and used in the art may be used for the outer cup **20** without departing from the scope of this invention.

Additionally, as shown in FIGS. **3**A through **3**C, the collapsible container **10** may include a second cup, or inner cup **40**. The inner cup **40** may include a base **42**, a plurality of collapsible sections **44**, and an inner cup top portion **46**. The base **42** may be located at the bottom of the inner cup **40**. The base **42** may be rounded in shape. The base **42** may be other shapes, such as an oval (as illustrated in FIGS. **6**A through **6**C), rectangular, or other polygon shapes without departing from the scope of this invention.

The plurality of collapsible sections **44** may be located above the base and next to or engaged with the base **42** of the inner cup **40**. Additionally, the plurality of collapsible sections **44** may be located in the middle area of the inner cup **40**. Each collapsible section **44** may be separated by a section ridge **48**. As shown in FIGS. **3**A and **3**B, the section ridges **48** may curve up and down around the inner cup **40**, wherein the section ridges go up and down around the perimeter of the inner cup **48**. The curving up and down of the section ridges **48** as described above and shown in FIGS. **3**A and **3**B helps to create the collapsible feature of the plurality of concentric sections **44**. However, in other examples in accordance with this invention, the section ridges **48** may be straight, rather than curving around the inner cup.

As shown in FIGS. **3**A and **3**B, in one example according to the invention, the plurality of collapsible sections **44** may include three concentric and collapsible sections. The plurality of concentric sections **44** may include a base section **50**, a middle section **52**, and a top section **54**. The base section **50** is located closest to the base **42** of the inner cup **40**. Additionally, the base section **50** may be engaged with or next to the base **42** of the inner cup **40**. The top section **54** is located closest to the inner cup top portion **46**. Additionally, the top section **54** may be engaged with or next to the inner cup top portion **46**. The middle section **52** may be located between the base section **50** and the top section **54**. Each of the concentric sections **50**, **52**, **54** may be defined by the section ridge **48** located between each of the corresponding concentric sections **50**, **52**, **54**. Additionally, the concentric sections **50**, **52**, **54** may have a differing circumference or perimeter. For example, as shown in FIGS. **3**A and **3**B, the base section **50** may have smaller circumference than the middle section **52**. The middle section **52** may have a smaller circumference than the top section **54**. If the concentric sections **50**, **52**, **54** are non-circular, then the concentric sections **50**, **52**, **54** may have a different perimeter, similar to as described above for the different circumference. Additionally, without departing from the scope of this invention, the plurality of concentric sections **44** may include a number of concentric sections other than three, such as two, four, or five or more.

As shown in FIGS. **3**A and **3**B, the inner cup top portion **46** is engaged with or located next to the top section **54** of the plurality of concentric sections **44**. The inner cup top portion **46** may include an inner cup perimeter flange **56**. The inner cup perimeter flange **56** may be located at the top of the inner cup top portion **46**. The inner cup perimeter flange **56** may extend around the perimeter of the inner cup top portion **46**. The inner cup perimeter flange **56** flares outwardly from the inner cup top portion **46** to present a surface with which the seal **60** can engage. The inner cup perimeter flange **56** may present a substantially continuous and planar engagement surface onto which the seal **60** can engage. The inner cup perimeter flange **56** includes both a top and a bottom. Additionally, the inner cup **46** includes a container opening **58** located at the top of the inner cup **40**. The container opening **58** may also be defined by the inner cup perimeter flange **56**.

The inner cup **40** may be made of many different types of materials. The inner cup **40** may preferably be made from plastic, and particularly those plastics which can result in a rigid surface when sufficiently thin, and ensure flexibility, for example thermoform plastics. Additionally, without departing from the scope of this invention, the inner cup **40** may be made of other materials, such as a thin collapsible metal. Other materials known and used in the art may be used for the inner cup **40** without departing from the scope of this invention.

Additionally, the collapsible container **10** may include a seal **60**. As shown in FIGS. **6**A and **6**B the seal **60** may cover the opening **58**. The seal **60** may include a pull-tab **62**. The pull-tab **62** may be a tab located on an outside portion of the seal **60**. A user may pull the pull-tab **62** by grasping and holding the pull-tab to remove the seal from the opening **58** and collapsible container **10**. The seal **60** may be, for example, be made of a foil material. Other materials known and used in the art may be used for the seal **60** without departing from the scope of this invention.

Additionally, as shown in FIGS. **6**A and **6**B, the seal **60** may be slightly larger than the opening **58** to ensure that the opening **58** is completely covered. In other examples in accordance with examples of this invention, the seal **60** may be more than slightly larger than the opening **58**. If the seal **60** is more than slightly larger than the opening **58**, the excess material of the seal **60** may hang-over the opening **58**.

As illustrated in FIGS. **1**A and **1**B, the elements of the container **10** according to this invention may be configured together such that the inner cup **40** is placed inside the outer cup **20** and the seal **60** is located over the opening **58**. When the inner cup **40** is inserted into the outer cup **20**, the outside of the inner cup top portion **46** engages and contacts with the inside of the outer cup top portion **26**. As the inner cup **40** is inserted farther into the outer cup **20**, the bottom of the inner cup perimeter flange **56** engages the top of the outer cup perimeter flange **34**. Additionally, in examples in accordance with this invention, portions of the top section **54** ridge **48** of the inner cup **40** may also engage against portions of the ridge **32** of the outer cup **20**. After the inner cup **40** is fully inserted into the upper cup **20**, the inner cup **40** and the outer cup **20** may include one or more means of joining the two pieces together, such as an engagement fit, welding, gluing, thermal adhesive process or other means for joining plastics or like materials known in the art. The means for joining the two pieces together may include the area between the inner cup top portion **46** and the outer cup top portion **26**, which may be by a friction fit or friction engagement. Additionally, another

area may include the inner cup perimeter flange **56** and the outer cup perimeter flange **34**, wherein the two perimeter flanges **34**, **56** may be glued or thermally adhered in accordance with examples of this invention. Furthermore, when the inner cup **40** is fully inserted into the outer cup **20**, the base **42** of the inner cup **40** may be substantially flush with the flat portion **28** of the outer cup **40**.

Lastly, the seal **60** may be placed and located over the opening **58** and the container **10**. The seal **60** may be affixed to the inner cup perimeter flange **56** by commonly known techniques that may allow for the seal **60** to be removed and peeled from the inner cup perimeter flange **56**. One such technique may be a thermal adhesion process.

Additionally, as illustrated in FIG. **4**, the outer cup **20** may be configured and manufactured to be stackable for manufacturing, shipping, packaging, storage, etc. When stacking a top outer cup **20**A and a bottom outer cup **20**B, the ridge **32**A of the top outer cup **20**A may engage with the outer cup perimeter ridge **34**B as the top outer cup **20**A is stacked inside the bottom outer cup **20**B. This stackability may provide an advantage for manufacturing, shipping, and/or packaging. As can be seen in FIG. **4**, the outer cup perimeter flange **34**A of the top outer cup **20**A may not contact the outer cup perimeter flange **34**B of the bottom outer cup **20**B in the stacked condition which may be desirable where the containers are provided in a stacked form. This stacked form may help to allow for a filling and sealing machine to grip a top most outer cup **20**A or bottom most outer cup **20**B of the stack for removal from the stack for subsequent filling and sealing.

Additionally, as illustrated in FIG. **5**, similar to the outer cup **20** as described above, the inner cup **40** may be configured and manufactured to be stackable for manufacturing, shipping, packaging, storage, etc. When stacking a top inner cup **40**A and a bottom inner cup **40**B, the top section ridge **48**A of the top inner cup **40**A may engage with the inner cup perimeter ridge **56**B of the bottom cup **40**B as the top inner cup **40**A is stacked inside the bottom inner cup **40**B. This stackability may provide an advantage for manufacturing, shipping, and/or packaging. As can be seen in FIG. **5**, the inner cup perimeter flange **56**A of the top inner cup **40**A may not contact the inner cup perimeter flange **56**B of the bottom inner cup **40**B in the stacked condition which may be desirable where the containers are provided in a stacked form. This stacked form may help to allow for a filling and sealing machine to grip a top most inner cup **40**A or bottom most inner cup **40**B of the stack for removal from the stack for subsequent filling and sealing.

As illustrated in FIGS. **6**A through **6**C, the container **10** may be used to contain or hold an edible content **72**. The edible content **72** may be an easy-to-consume, preferably shelf-stable, gel-based product that could be preferably consumed in one bite without a spoon. More particularly, the edible product **72** could relate to a soft gel-based product containing a gum and additional ingredients including, but not limited to food-grade acid, sodium citrate, calcium lactate, nutritive and non-nutritive sweetener, color, flavor, functional ingredients or combinations of these ingredients. Additionally, the edible product **72** could contain at least caffeine, taurine, a vitamin B complex and a gum. In other examples in accordance with this invention, the edible product **72** may also be a yogurt or custard or other gelatinous food consumer products, such as those having a jelly-like consistency that are not able to be poured or dispensed quickly from a container due to their high viscosity and/or gelatinous nature. Additionally, the container **10** may contain or hold other consumer products other than edible products without departing from the scope of this invention.

As illustrated in FIGS. **6**A and **6**B, for a user **70** to use the container **10**, the user **70** may first remove the seal **60**. The user **70** may remove the seal **60** by grasping or holding onto the pull-tab **62**, thereby pulling the seal **60** from the opening **58** of the container **10**. After removing the seal **60**, as illustrated in FIG. **6**C, the user **70** may then insert their finger or thumb **71** into the hole **30** at the bottom of the container **10**. After the user **70** inserts their finger **71** into the hole **30**, the user's finger **71** presses against the base **42** of inner cup **40**, thereby exerting force against the inner cup **40** toward the opening **58** of the container **10**. As the user continues to press their finger **71** against the base **42** of the inner cup **40**, the inner cup **40** begins collapsing. For example, the plurality of concentric sections **44** may collapse within or against each other (such as a base section collapsing inside a middle section and the base section and the middle section collapsing inside a top section). As the plurality of concentric sections **44** collapse within or against each other, the edible content **72** is pressed out of the opening **58** of the container **10**, thereby falling out of the container **10** and into the user's mouth **70**. The user **70** may then consume or eat the edible content **72** and discard the container **10** after use.

CONCLUSION

The present invention is disclosed above and in the accompanying drawings with reference to a variety of examples. The purpose served by the disclosure, however, is to provide an example of the various features and concepts related to the invention, not to limit the scope of the invention. One skilled in the relevant art will recognize that numerous variations and modifications may be made to the aspects described above without departing from the scope of the present invention, as defined by the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A container configured to hold edible contents, the container comprising:

an outer cup comprising a bottom portion located at the bottom of the outer cup, a sidewall section engaged with the bottom portion, and an outer cup top portion engaged with the sidewall section, wherein the outer cup top portion includes an outwardly angled first ridge located where the outer cup top portion engages the sidewall section, the bottom portion further including a hole, and the outer cup top portion further including an outer cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the outer cup top portion;

an inner cup located inside the outer cup, the inner cup comprising a base, a plurality of collapsible sections, and an inner cup top portion, wherein the inner cup top portion includes an outwardly angled second ridge located where the inner cup top portion engages the plurality of collapsible sections, the plurality of collapsible sections further including a top section, a middle section, and a base section, and the inner cup top portion further including an inner cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the inner cup top portion, wherein a container opening is defined in the inner cup top portion, and the base is accessible through the hole in the outer cup, wherein the second ridge of the inner cup top portion engages the first ridge of the outer cup top portion thereby creating a friction-fit engagement between the inner cup and the outer cup; and

a seal covering the container opening and affixed to the inner cup perimeter flange,

wherein the base is configured to collapse toward the container opening when a force is exerted toward the container opening through the hole on the base, such that the base section collapses inside the middle section, and the base section and middle section collapse inside the top section, thereby discharging the edible contents from the container.

2. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the inner cup perimeter flange engages the outer cup perimeter flange.

3. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the plurality of collapsible sections are concentric.

4. The container according to claim **3**, wherein the base section perimeter is less than the middle section perimeter and the middle section perimeter is less than the top section perimeter.

5. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the inner cup is made of a thermoform plastic.

6. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the outer cup is made of a thermoform plastic.

7. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the seal is made of a foil material.

8. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the container opening is circular.

9. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the container opening is oval.

10. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the outer cup is stackable with a second outer cup such that the outer cup perimeter flange does not engage a perimeter flange on the second outer cup.

11. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the inner cup is stackable with a second inner cup such that the inner cup perimeter flange does not engage a perimeter flange on the second inner cup.

12. The container according to claim **1**, wherein the sidewall section includes one or more of the following: logos, advertising content, or nutritional information.

13. A container configured to hold edible contents, the container comprising:

an outer cup comprising a bottom portion located at the bottom of the outer cup, a sidewall section engaged with the bottom portion, and an outer cup top portion engaged with the sidewall section, wherein the outer cup top portion includes an outwardly angled first ridge located where the outer cup top portion engages the sidewall section the bottom portion further including a hole, and the outer cup top portion further including an outer cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the outer cup top portion;

an inner cup located inside the outer cup, the inner cup comprising a base, a plurality of concentric and collapsible sections, and an inner cup top portion, wherein the inner cup top portion includes an outwardly angled second ridge located where the inner cup top portion engages the plurality of collapsible sections wherein the second ridge of the inner cup top portion engages the first ridge of the outer cup top portion thereby creating a friction-fit engagement between the inner cup and the outer cup,

the plurality of concentric and collapsible sections further including a top section, middle section, and a base section, wherein the base section perimeter is less than the middle section perimeter, and the middle section perimeter is less than the top section perimeter,

the inner cup top portion further including an inner cup perimeter flange that flares outwardly from the inner cup top portion, such that the inner cup perimeter flange engages the outer cup perimeter flange,

and wherein a container opening is defined in the inner cup top portion, and the base is accessible through the hole in the outer cup; and

a seal covering the container opening and affixed to the inner cup perimeter flange,

wherein the base is configured to collapse toward the container opening when a force is exerted toward the container opening through the hole on the base, such that the base section collapses inside the middle section, and the base section and middle section collapse inside the top section, thereby discharging the edible contents from the container.

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